

REMARKS

Claims 11-15, 30-33, 37-39, and 41-47 are pending in this Application. By this Amendment, claims 11, 30, and 41 have been amended, and claims 1-10, 35, 40, and 48 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 30-33, 37, and 41-44 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Olson (U.S. Patent No. 6,727,602); rejects claims 1-5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 38-40, and 46-47 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Choo (U.S. Patent No. 6,452,362) in view of Olson; rejects claims 35 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Olson in view of Popescu-Stanesti (U.S. Patent No. 6,977,482); rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Choo and Olson in view of Popescu-Stanesti; rejects claim 45 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Olson in view of Kitagawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,624,613); and rejects claims 8 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Choo and Olson in view of Kitagawa. To the extent that these rejections remain applicable to the claims, as amended, the Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, as follows:

The Applicants disclose a novel and unobvious approach for extending battery life in an electronic device. This is achieved by operating two batteries in a pulse current discharge mode while supplying continuous current to a load in response to the current required by the load exceeding a threshold (e.g., when the device is in a traffic state), and to continuously couple the first and second batteries to the load in response to the current required by the load being below a threshold (e.g., when the device is in an idle state).

The above concept is captured in claims 11, 30, and 41. For example, amended claim 30 recites, *inter alia*, “a power management module configured to operate each of the first and second batteries in a pulse current discharge mode while supplying continuous current to the processor in response to the wireless communications device being operated in the traffic state, and to continuously couple the first and second batteries to the processor in response to the processor being operated in the idle state” (emphasis added). Amended claims 11 and 41 recite similar features.

In rejecting the claims, the Examiner, at pages 10-11 of the Office Action, acknowledged that Olsen fails to disclose “a power management module configured to . . . continuously couple the first and second batteries to the processor in response to the processor being operated in the idle state,” yet asserted that Popescu-Stanesti discloses this feature, and asserted that “it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Olson with the teaching of Popescu-Stanesti in order to efficiently implement plurality of batteries in parallel for portable electronic devices.” The Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Examiner cites col. 8, lines 32-42, col. 5, lines 65-67, and col. 11, lines 58-67, of Popescu-Stanesti in support of its assertion. The cited sections of Popescu-Stanesti, however, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest “a power management module configured to . . . continuously couple the first and second batteries to the processor in response to the processor being operated in the idle state,” as recited in claim 30, and similarly recited in claims 11 and 41.

In col. 5, lines 65-67, Popescu-Stanesti simply states that “[t]he first input terminal 380-1 may accept a power save mode (PSM) digital input control signal from the PMU 320 representative of whether a power save mode is desired by the PMU 320.”

In col. 8, lines 32-42, Popescu-Stanesti states that parallel battery use of batteries A and B may be enabled by a parallel battery use enable (PBUE) signal only if the appropriate conditions are met. For example, parallel battery use may be enabled if the USE_A and USE_B signals indicate a desire to use batteries A and B and if the difference in potential between batteries A and B is within a predefined limit. The conditions for parallel battery use do not include a power save mode (PSM) requirement.

The only other mention of PSM, aside from its introduction in col. 5, lines 65-67, is in col. 11, line 65, to col. 12, line 10, as partially cited by the Examiner. Here, Popescu-Stanesti states that “[t]he PMU 320 may also send a power save mode request to the selector circuit 314 if a DC power source is absent and low power consumption is desired to conserve battery life. If such a power save mode request is received by the selector circuit 314, . . . [b]attery A or B with the higher voltage level will supply power.” As clearly evident, parallel battery use is not enabled by the PSM request. Quite the contrary, the PSM request specifically results in the use of only one of the batteries. As such, not only does Popescu-Stanesti fail to disclose or suggest “a power management module configured to . . . continuously couple the first and second batteries to the processor in response to the processor being operated in the idle state,” as recited in claim 30, and similarly recited in claims 11 and 41, but also teaches away from this feature.

The Office Action does not rely on Choo and Kitagawa in its rejection of the above feature. Moreover, none of these references, individually or in combination with Olsen and Popescu-Stanesti, disclose, teach, or suggest “a power management module configured to . . . continuously couple the first and second batteries to the processor in response to the processor being operated in the idle state,” as recited in claim 30, and similarly recited in claims 11 and 41, and as such, fail to make up for the deficiencies of Olsen and Popescu-Stanesti.

In accordance with the above remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 11, 30, and 41 define patentable subject matter. Claims 12-15, 31-33, 37-39, and 42-47 depend from claims 11, 30, and 41, respectively, and therefore, also define patentable subject matter, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

II. Conclusion

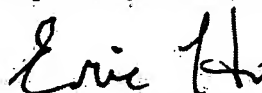
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 11-15, 30-33, 37-39, and 41-47 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 8/13/08

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